GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3119
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EMPLOYMENT FOR ECONOMICALLY WEAKER SECTIONS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding increase in unemployment in economically weaker sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create more employment opportunities for this section?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a)& (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organization. The last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per this survey, details of unemployment rates on usual status basis amongst the various social groups such as Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Others are given below:-

Unemployment Rate (%)

Social groups	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
SCs	1.7	1.4	5.5	4.6
STs	1.1	0.4	2.9	3.4
OBCs	1.5	1.9	3.3	6.7
Others	2.0	2.9	3.7	8.5
All	1.6	1.8	3.8	6.9

(c) The Eleventh five year Plan aims at creating 58 million of additional job opportunities in normal growth process and through various special employment generation programmes. In order to address the problem of unemployment that the country is facing, Government of India has been implementing various employment generation programmes. Some of the important ones are Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS). One of the monitorable targets for the Eleventh Plan is to ensure that at least 33 percent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children. The target for population under Swarnajayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is the urban poor living below the poverty line (BPL) and also lays special focus on women, Scheduled castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). The percentage of women beneficiaries under urban self employment programme (USEP) shall not be less than 30%. SCs and STs must be benefited at least to the extent of their proportion of strength in city/town population. Similarly Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) provides financial assistance to members of the BPL families of the rural areas for creating income generating assets to the mix of bank credit and subsidy. Special safeguards have also been provided to the vulnerable sections by way of reserving 50% benefits for SCs/STs, 40% for women and 3% for disabled persons. The economically weaker sections of the society are, therefore, participating in the additional employment generated in the normal growth process and special employment programmes.